



STAFF SENATE

ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Senate Meeting
February 16, 2024 10:00am
McCandless Hall- Griffin Auditorium & Zoom

Present: Pam Bridges, Diego Chulan, Kathryn Doaty, Kim Dunnavant (zoom), Donna Holland, Beth Jenkins-presiding over meeting, Elaine McGill, Valerie Sellers, Amber Skantz (zoom)

Absent: Carolyn Carthen, Ben Dumas, Amber Martinez

1. **Order-** Meeting called to order by Beth Jenkins.
2. **Minutes-** The minutes were accepted and approved.
3. **Old Business**
 - a. Meet and Greet Reminder: Feb. 23rd on 3rd Floor McCandless
 - b. Carnation Sale Fundraiser: Approximately 850-900 sold. Please turn in any collected money that has not carried to the Business Office.
 - c. Committee Meetings: Coordinate dates and times to meet.
4. **New Business**
 1. Update on Professional Development Survey that went out-Whitney Michael
 - a. A PowerPoint presentation was shared to show the results from participation.
 - b. Approximately half of the participants shared they have had no training/development over the past year. Majority of those who have received some type of training on campus shared it was online training from HR or the Business Office. Some shared attending Safe Zone training.
 - c. The majority of those who participated in the survey have been employed at Athens State 5 years or less.
 - d. The top topics wanted/needed were Technology Skills, Communication Skills, Leadership & Management.
 - e. A strong desire for In-person and Workshop trainings and development programs were seen in the results of the survey.
 - f. The Staff Professional Development Committee will meet soon to discuss the results of the survey and implement next steps for providing needed training sessions and development across the campus.
 2. Office Olympics-Trish Dilullo
 - a. Trish pitched the idea of a campus wide Office Olympics with the upcoming Summer Olympics.
 - b. Due to a variety of athletic and non-athletic employees across the campus, the idea of providing both 'brains and bronze' and 'physical and mental' activities were pitched.
 - c. Also due to some offices only being able to have one person gone at a time or one person left behind to 'man the office', there could be a 'morning heat' and 'afternoon heat' so more could participate.
 - d. The request to have a group of staff members meet and brainstorm ideas of what this could look like was requested for a more detailed pitch at next meeting.
 - e. Volunteers were requested and suggested as follows-Trish Dilullo, Diego Chulan, Amber Skantz, Jon Mills, Whitney Michael, Jennifer Mares.

3. Topic of keeping Athens State email addresses after staff retiring-addressed by Jeff Powers and Belinda Krigel.
 - a. Staff have asked about the possibility of keeping their Athens State email due to discounts and benefits they receive through that email and being attached to the ID.Me program. The point was raised that Faculty Emeritus gets to keep theirs but Staff Emeritus does not.
 - b. Jeff will reevaluate the inequity of the two and speak with the cabinet and provide an update at the next senate meeting.
 - c. The question of any staff retiring keeping their email is tabled for later discussion due to the surrounding cyber security risks as Athens State as the host and the required time and staff it would take to oversee the domain.
 - d. Jeff and Belinda will come back to next months meeting with discussion on this matter.
4. Staff Professional Development and Training.
 - a. Amber Skantz-Host a staff development day(s)
 - b. Whitney Michael-Need across campus research on what is needed/wanted for staff development. A committee needs to be formed to gather information and actively make a plan for professional development options available to staff.
 - c. Staff Professional Development committee-Whitney Michael, Elaine McGill, Amber Skantz, Ronda Kelley, Kathryn Doaty, Diego Chulan, Pam Bridges. Whitney will create a climate survey to go out to staff.

5. Departmental Concerns/Announcements from Senate Members

- a. Beth mentioned needing to get started on plans for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon that's every April. April 18th and 25th was pitched as dates, and Beth will bring them to Amber Martinez to see what works best for staff, Dr. Wehlburg, and the Cabinet. Foundation always covers/provides the food, ideas for a guest speaker are needed, and the John Booty award is presented at the luncheon.
- b. Library wants to remind everyone that your employee badge is also your library card. Please come by and check out books, especially their fun fiction section. They have a great selection and aren't just for textbooks and research.
- c. Motion to adjourn from Kathryn. Second from Whitney.

Meeting Adjourned- Meeting adjourned. Minutes recorded by Whitney Michael.